

OUR THANKS TO ALL YOU HAVE COME TO CELEBRATE PRINCESS ALDIS' BIRTH.

LET ALL EAT, DRINK AND MAKE MERRY TO THEIR HEART'S CONTENT!

TO ALL YOU, KIND OF HEART AND FREE OF SPIRIT TO THIS MY BIRTH DAY BALL, MOST HAPPILY DO I THANK YOU!



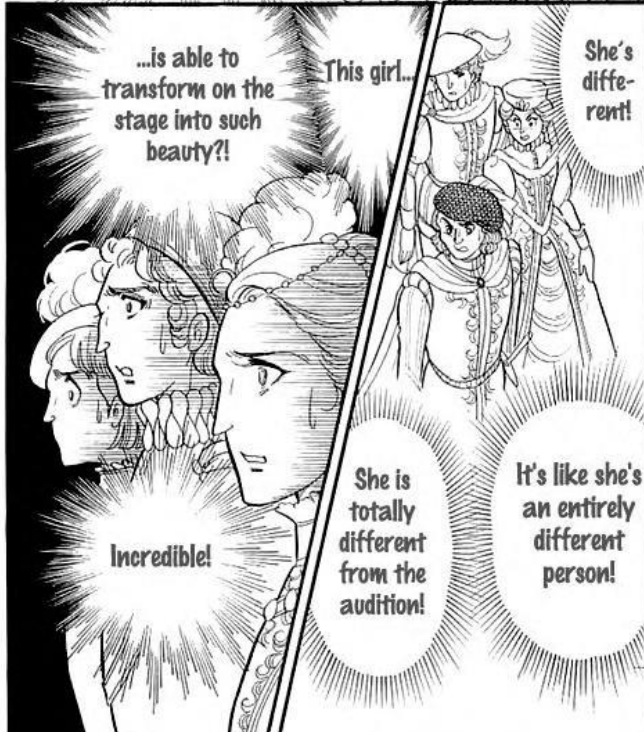
IS THAT REALLY MAYA?
WE AREN'T DREAMING, ARE WE?

Maya!



Aldis!

I am Princess
Aldis of the
Kingdom of
Lastonia!



...is able to
transform on the
stage into such
beauty?!

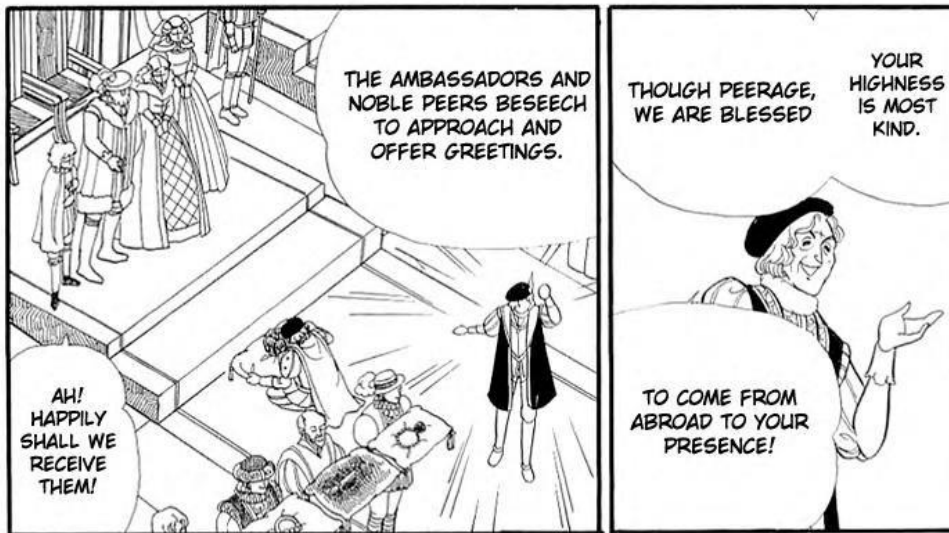
This girl...

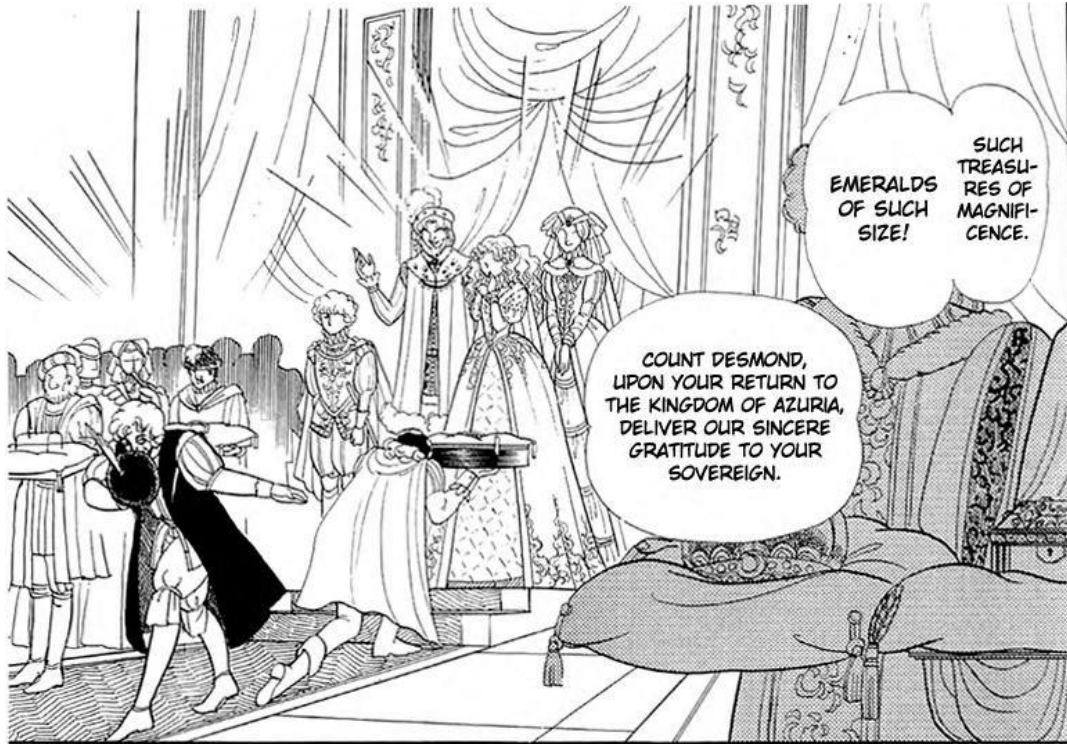
She's diffe-
rent!

Incredible!

She is
totally
different
from the
audition!

It's like she's
an entirely
different
person!





EMERALDS
OF SUCH
SIZE!

SUCH
TREASU-
RES OF
MAGNIFI-
CENCE.

COUNT DESMOND,
UPON YOUR RETURN TO
THE KINGDOM OF AZURIA,
DELIVER OUR SINCERE
GRATTITUDE TO YOUR
SOVEREIGN.



SO MUST YOUR
HAPPY THANKS
BE TO OUR
GUESTS, ALDIS.

SUCH
GENEROUS
BOUNTY!



THIS VASE
IS UNSUR-
PASSED!

PRINCESS
CAROLINA,
PEERLESS ARE
THE ARTISANS
OF VIENNA.

MOST
PLEASED
AM I THAT IT
IS TO YOUR
LIKING.



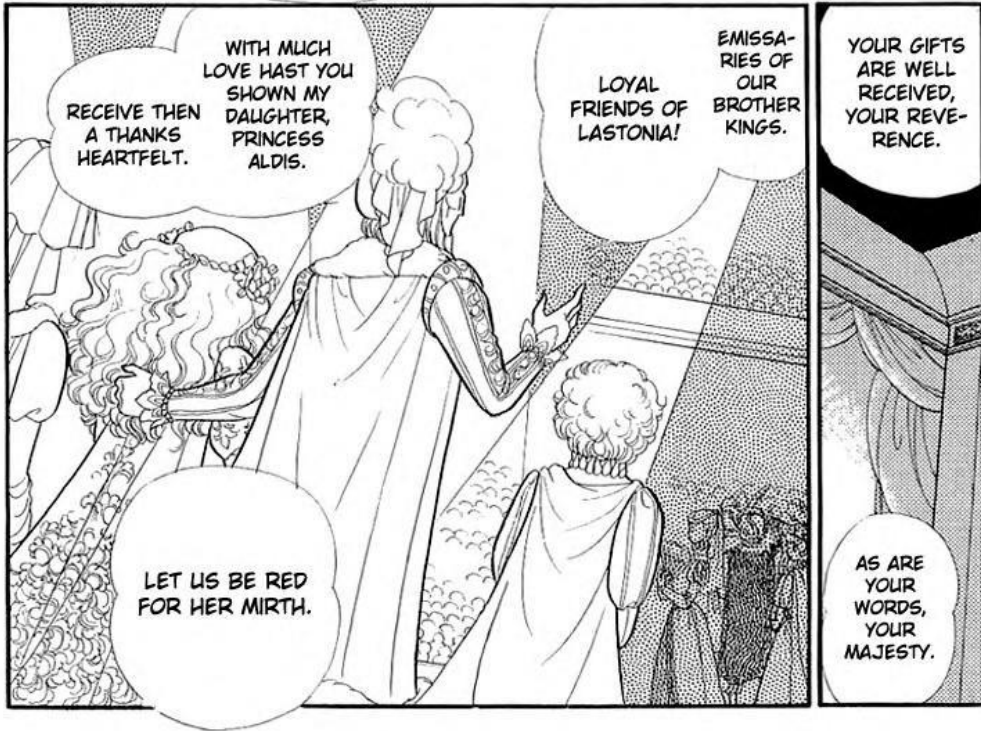
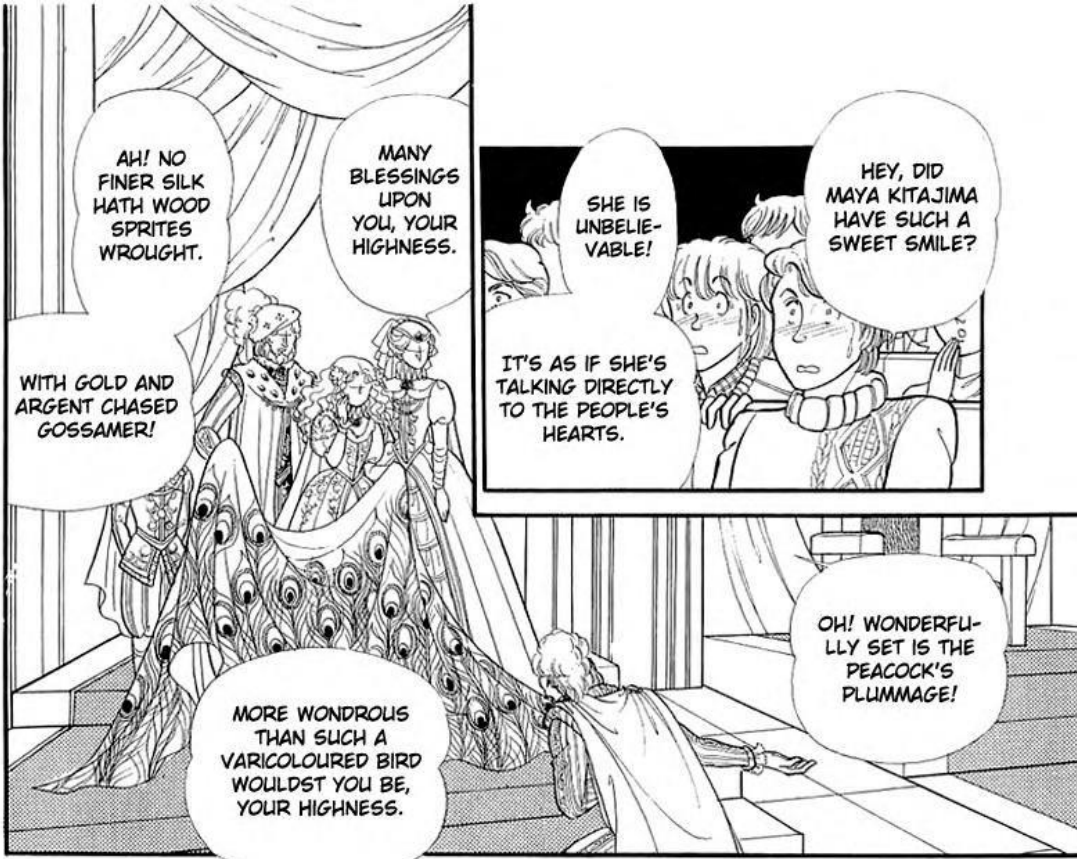
...BEFORE SUCH
WOND'ROUS
GIFTS!

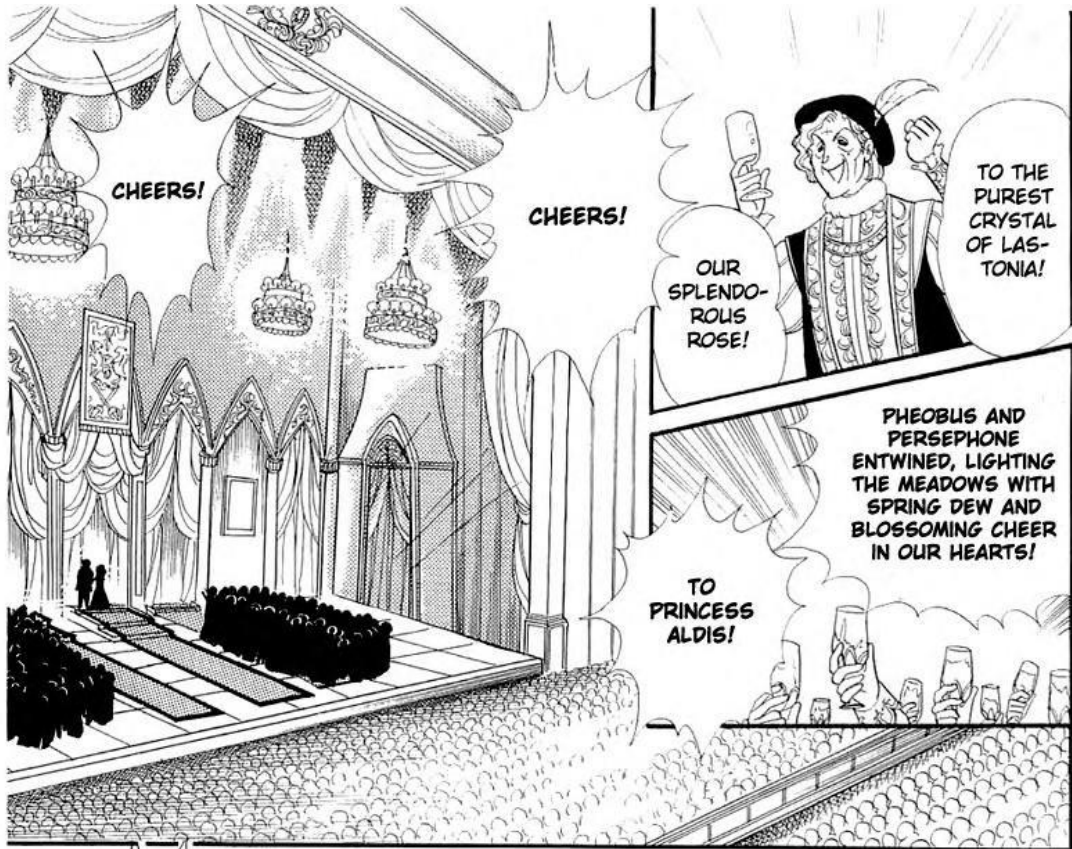
LET THE
WORDS TOUCH
YOU ALL,
KISSINGLY!

MY LORDS
AND LADIES...

THOUGH MOST
ARDENTLY DO I
DESIRE TO THANK
YOU ALL FOR
YOUR PRESENTS...

WHAT WORDS
CAN'T MY
GRATTITUDE
EXPRESS...





CHEERS!

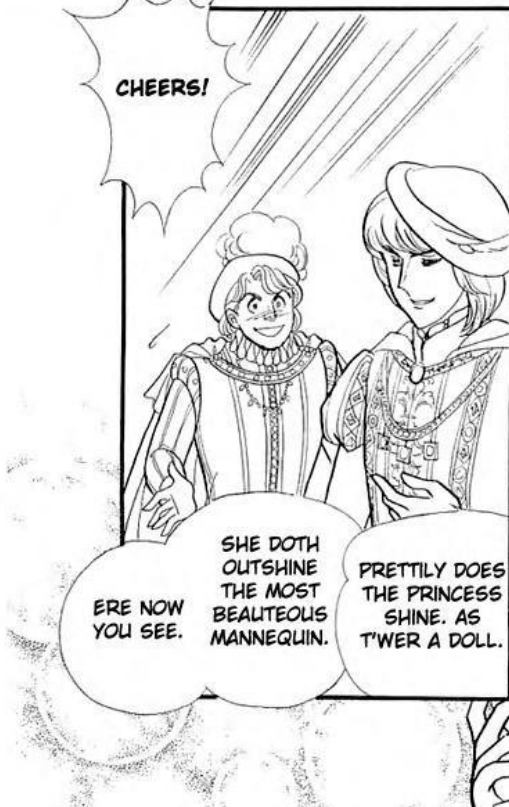
CHEERS!

OUR SPLENDOROUS ROSE!

TO THE PUREST CRYSTAL OF LASTONIA!

PHEOBUS AND PERSEPHONE ENTWINED, LIGHTING THE MEADOWS WITH SPRING DEW AND BLOSSOMING CHEER IN OUR HEARTS!

TO PRINCESS ALDIS!



CHEERS!

ERE NOW YOU SEE. SHE DOTHS OUTSHINE THE MOST BEAUTEOUS MANNEQUIN.

PRETTILY DOES THE PRINCESS SHINE. AS T'WER A DOLL.



I THANK YOU, JOHANNES, FUTURE KING OF LASTONIA.

MERRY DAY ALDIS.



AND I RETURN YOU, HEAVEN GIVE THEE MANY, MANY MERRY DAYS!

THANK YOU!



DO YOU NOT TASTE THE WINDS OF THIS KINGDOM, EURIGES?



SSHT! T'WER HIS MAJESTY TO HEAR, YOU'D STAND SHORTER BY A HEAD!



YULIUS!

AN EMPTY BELOVED DOLL IS PRINCESS ALDIS OF LASTONIA.

PRETTY, YET DEVOID OF SPIRIT, AS A DOLL.

BUT T'WAS A LIGHT OF A FACADE.



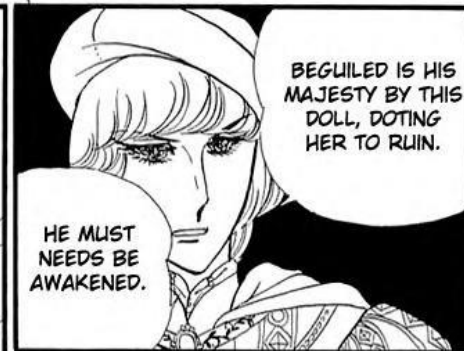
WITH NO LOVE LOST BETWIXT HER AND THE GOTTFRIEDS, THE QUEEN'S KIN

FROM SUCH TIME ABROAD, YOU MAY NOT HAVE KNOWN: SHE HATH LOST HER SIGHT.

BLAH! BLAH!

ANON, THE MUSIC.

IN THE SOLITUDE OF THE NORTH VILLA DOTH SHE SPEND HER DAYS.



BEGUILED IS HIS MAJESTY BY THIS DOLL, DOTING HER TO RUIN.

HE MUST NEEDS BE AWAKENED.



YET, WHITHER THE DOWAGER QUEEN HALDORA?

ABSENT FROM HER GRAND-DAUGHTER'S CELEBRATION?



YOUR SERVANT, MY LORD.

LET US FORTH, TRIPPINGLY.



COME, DAUGHTER,

YOUR HAND FOR THIS DANCE.



HA
HA
HA



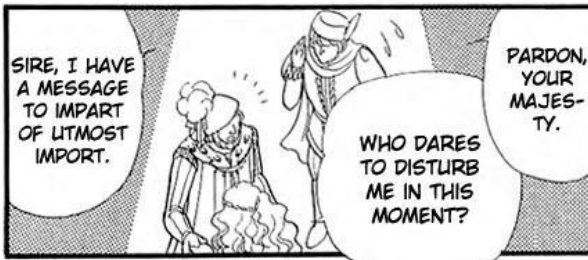
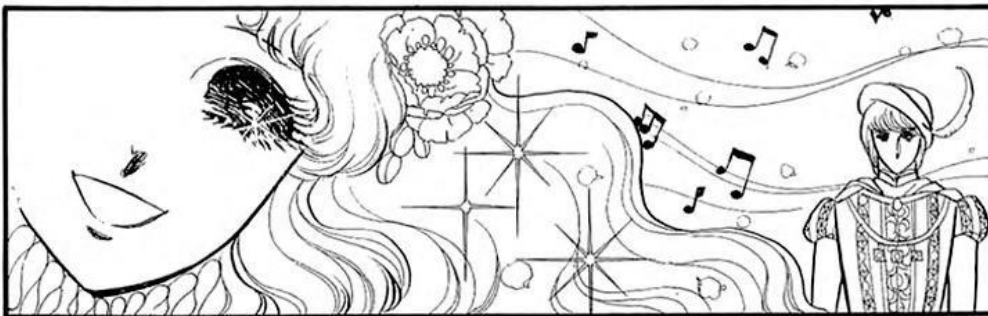
I can't believe it?

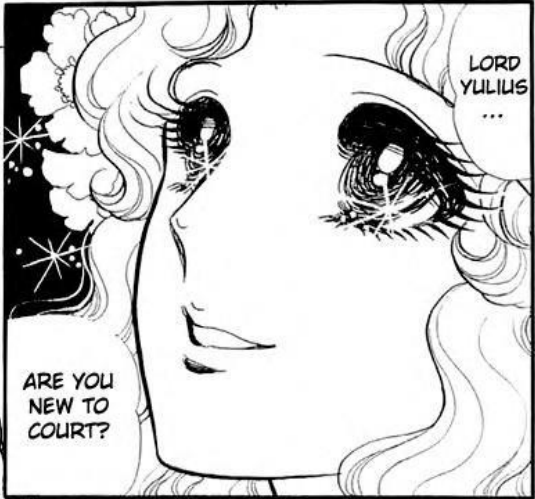
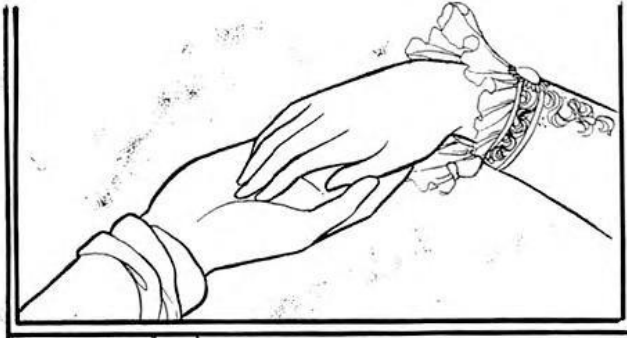
Maya... is that really you?



OOH....

WHAT A WONDERFUL GIRL...







SHT,
YOUR
MAJESTY!

WHAT? OUR
FOUL FOE, THE
KINGDOM OF
ERINWALD IS
TO ALLY WITH
THE DANE?

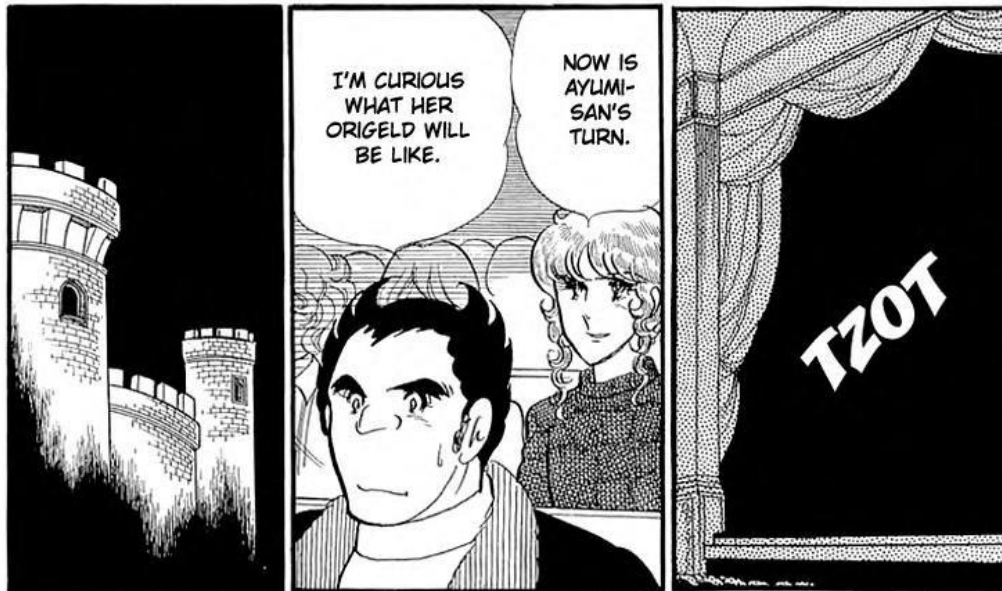
AND OF A
CERTAINTY?

YES!



YET SWIFTLY MUST
WE GIRD OUR
THOUGHTS, LEST
WE BE LATE!

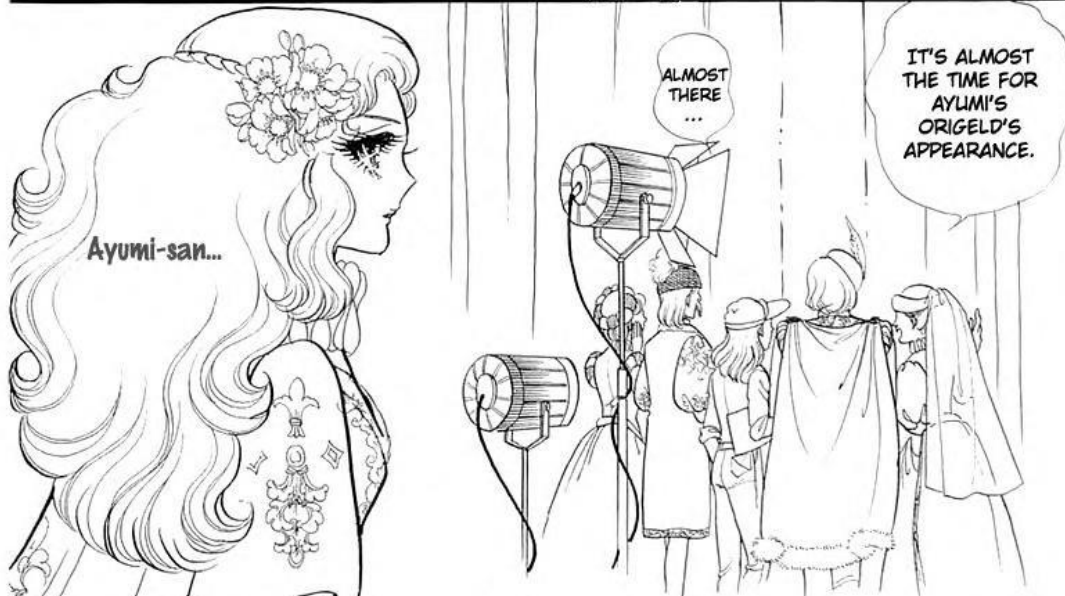
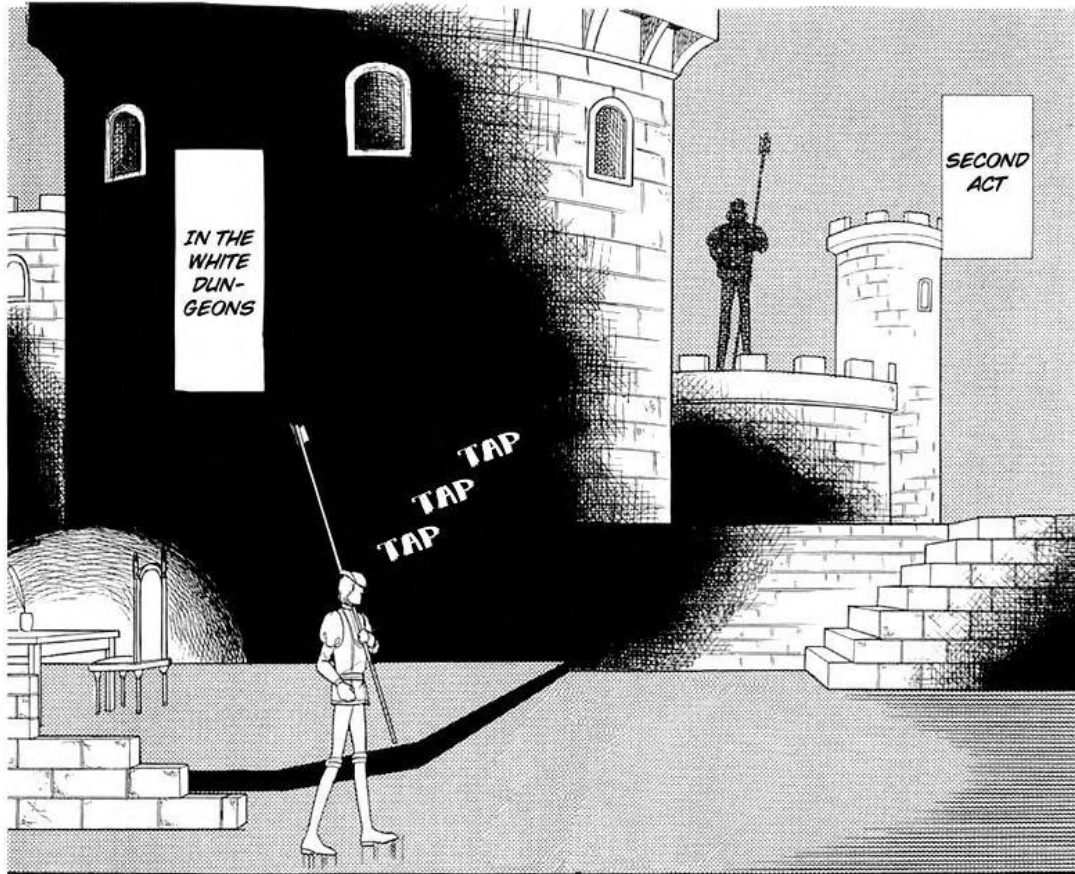
THAT THE DANE
WOULDS'T
SUPPORT
ERIWALD IS
UNFATHOMABLE!



I'M CURIOUS
WHAT HER
ORIGELD WILL
BE LIKE.

NOW IS
AYLIMI-
SAN'S
TURN.

TZOT





THE CHILL HAS ENTERED MY OLD BONES!

GUARDS, LIGHT THE FIRE!

SURELY IT MUST BE SO, EVEN THE ICE FROSTED MOUNTAINS MELT....

AND THE CRACKING OF THEIR WINTER CROWNS FILL THE VALLEYS....

AHH, SUCH CHILL!

THOUGH IT BE SPRING, ONLY THIS DUNGEON SEEMINGLY IS IMPERVIOUS....

...YET TO ALL IS FORTUNE FICKLE.

AAH... YET MUST THIS BE MY LOT? PITEOUS WAS MY ILL-FORTUNED QUEEN...

BENT TO MY DUTY UNDER QUEEN KATAJINA TO SERVE LADY ORIGELD IN SUCH A PLACE...

EIGHT YEARS ENTOMBED!

UPS! I MUST STOP RAMBLING...

HERE IS HELD THE FIRST BORN DAUGHTER OF THE KING, LADY ORIGELD!

GUARDS, LIGHT THE FIRE!

IS NOT YOUR DUTY AND PAY ARRIVED FROM HIS MAJESTY?



DRUNKARDS FOR GUARDS!

FIND YOUR OWN TINDER AND FUEL IF YOU MUST.

QUIET, OLD WOMAN!

NOW, THERE. THIS DAY BE THE CELEBRATION OF PRINCESS ALDIS' 13TH BIRTH DAY.

WHAT DID YOU SAY?!

HAH! FIRST BORN? 'TIS THE WORD ON THE WIND THAT SHE IS NOT.



...BEAUTIFUL WAS SHE, THE TRUE FLOWER OF LASTONIA.

AND WHEN HER HIGHNESS HERSELF, ACCOMPANIED BY THE KING WAVED FROM THE BALCONY...

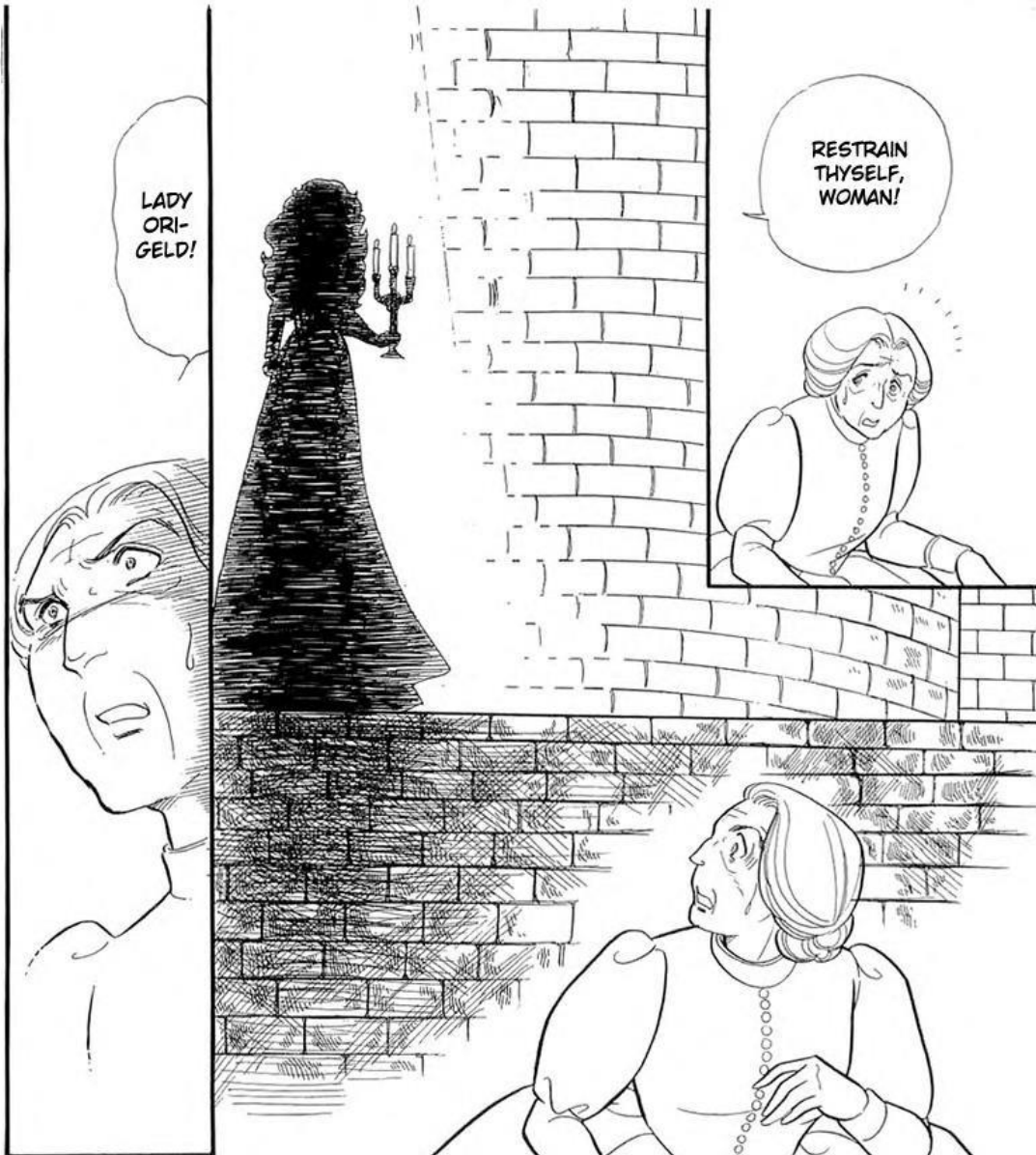
IN HER HONOUR HAVE WE TOASTED SOME WINE.



GUARDS!
WAIT, GUARDS!

LIGHT THE FIRE!

MORE TEMPERATE THAN YOUR LADY ORIGELD!







DOST THOU DESIRE TO SHAME THE NAME OF ORIGELD, HEIR APPARENT OF LASTONIA?

I-IS THAT REALLY AYUMI HIMEKAWA?

IS IT POSSIBLE?

BLAH BLAH!

ZOFIE...

I-IS SHE AYUMI HIMEKAWA?

THOU SHALL NO LONGER SPEAK OF THE COLD!

CONTINUE THUS AND I WILL WARM THEE WITH THIS BRAND!

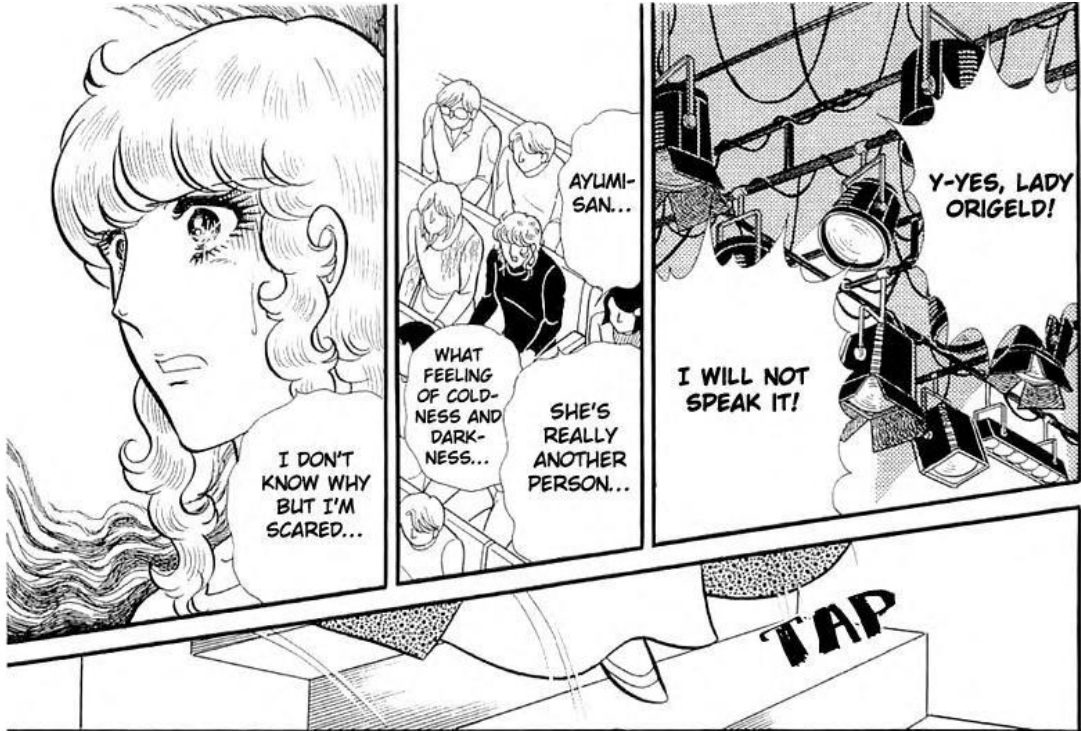


GULP



ONODERA-SENSEI!

THUD



I DON'T KNOW WHY BUT I'M SCARED...

AYUMI-SAN...

WHAT FEELING OF COLDNESS AND DARKNESS...

SHE'S REALLY ANOTHER PERSON...

Y-YES, LADY ORIGELD!

I WILL NOT SPEAK IT!

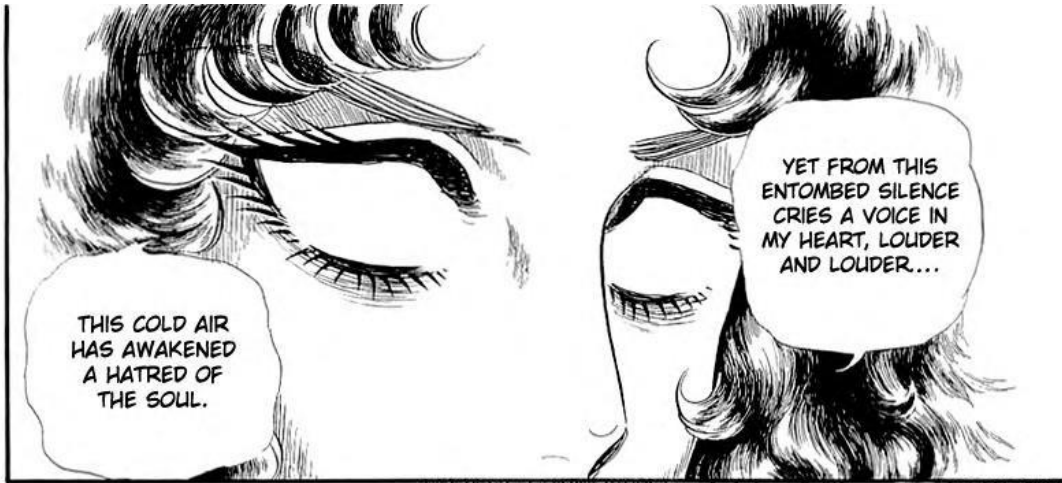
TAP



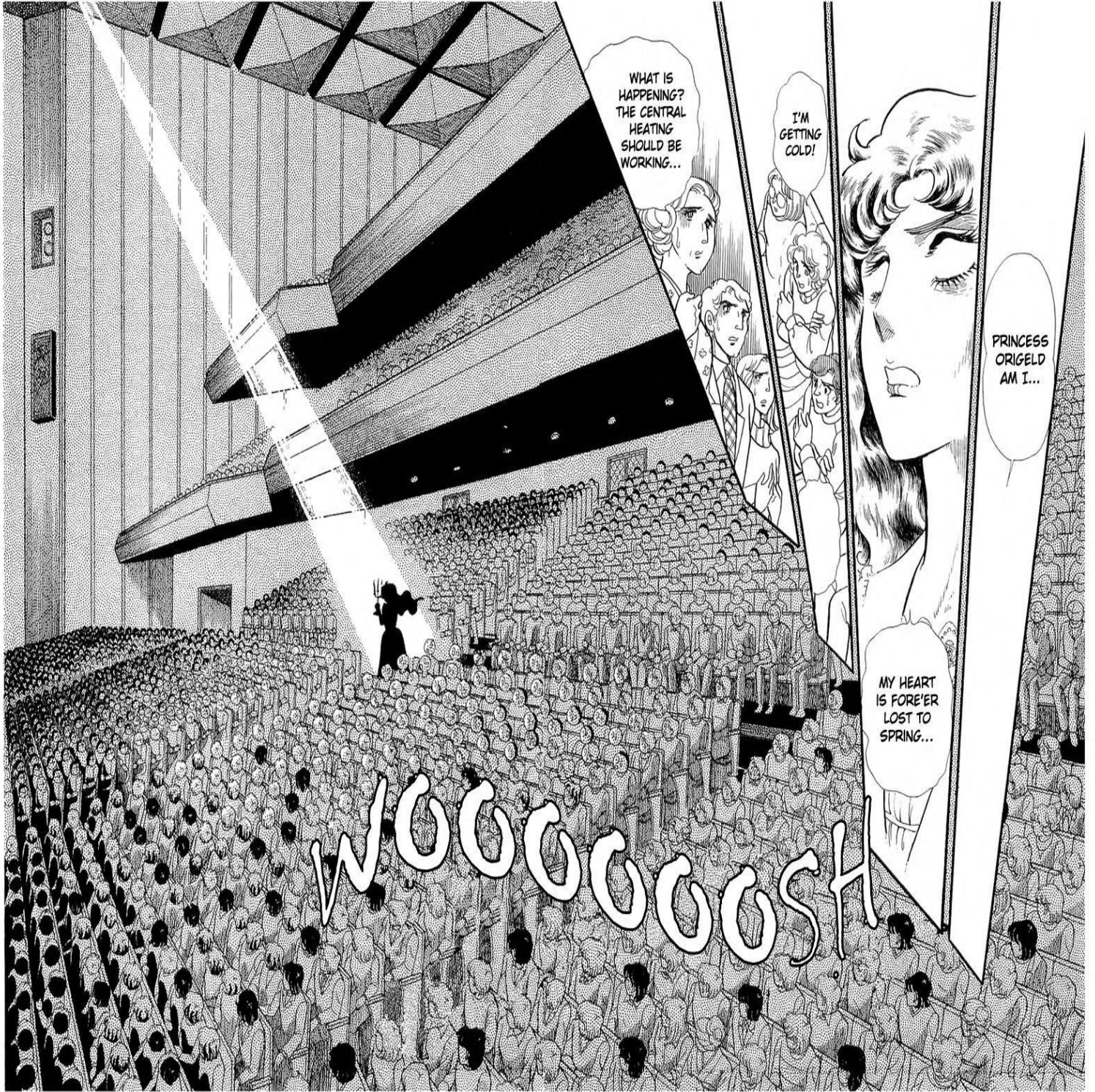
NEWS FROM ABROAD DOES THE BARON BJORNSON BRING.

TWO VISITORS HAVE I: MY TUTOR AND THE PRIEST.

BOOKS FOR MY SOLITUDE...







WHAT IS HAPPENING?
THE CENTRAL HEATING SHOULD BE WORKING...

I'M GETTING COLD!

PRINCESS ORIGELD AM I...

MY HEART IS FORE'ER LOST TO SPRING...

WOOOOOSH



AND ALL THE
SPECTATORS
CAN FEEL THE
WINTER.

